

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 694

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 1907

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: GT US OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP TO SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: STATE 54199

1. I HAVE NO ADDITIONS TO REFTEL LIST OF FIVE STATEMENTS
BE SECRETARY RELATING TO GUATEMALA, WHICH AGREES
WITH MY OWN RECOLLECTIONS AND NOTES, AND ONLY ONE
CHANGE TO SUGGES: RE ITEM C, SECRETARY AGREED TO
LOOK INTO PRESIDENT LAUGERUD'S REQUEST FOR BOTH
HELICOPTERS AND SPARE PARTS.

2. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND OF OUR RECOMMENDATIONS
IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. \$25 MILLION AID GRANT. OUR PRELIMINARY RECOM-
MENDATIONS ON HOW IT CAN BE USED WERE CONTAINED
IN GUATEMALA 1720.

B. USGS STUDY OF GUATEMALAN EARTHQUAKE. I
WROTE PRESIDENT LAUGERUD ON MARCH 1 AND ENCLOSED
A THREE-PARAGRAPH MEMORANDUM FROM USGS SEIS-
MOLOGIST C.J. MANGER, WHICH LISTED THE SITES AT
WHICH PORTABLE SEISMOGRAPHS HAD BEEN INSTALLED
AFTER THE QUAKE AND STATED THAT DATA FROM THESE
SEISMOGRAPHS WOULD BE ANALYZED IN GOLDEN
COLORADO. PRELIMINARY RESULTS WOULD BE AVAILABLE
WITHIN APPROXIMATELY TWO MONTHS. I TOLD THE
PRESIDENT THE RESULTS WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO HIM
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AS SOON AS RECEIVED FROM COLORADO.

C. WASHINGTON RESPONSE TO GUATEMALAN REQUEST FOR TWO HELICOPTERS AND SPARE PARTS THROUGH GRANT AID CONTAINED IN STATE 52188. PRESIDENT LAUGERUD WAS INFORMED MARCH 5 OF THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN OBTAINING GRANT FUNDING FROM EITHER AID OR DOD AND OF OUR RECOMMENDATION THAT GOG USE \$1.5 MILLION IN FMS CREDIT WHICH WE COULD CONFIRM TO HIM WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR GUATEMALA. USE OF FMS CREDIT FOR HELICOPTERS AND HELICOPTER PARTS HAD IN FACT BEEN FORESEEN BY GOG LAST NOVEMBER (SEE 1975 GUATEMALA 6302). PRESIDENT WAS CLEARLY DISAPPOINTED AT DENIAL OF GRANT, BUT HE ACCEPTED WITH APPRECIATION OFFER OF FMS CREDIT AND SAID HE WANTED TO USE IT FOR PURCHASE OF TWO UH-1H HELICOPTERS AND AS MUCH OF A TO-BE-REVISED SPARE PARTS LIST AS REMAINING CREDIT WOULD COVER. PRESIDENT ASKED THAT DELIVERY BE EXPECTED TO EXTENT POSSIBLE AND TERMS AND INTEREST RATE MADE AS GENEROUS AS POSSIBLE.

D. BELIZE. WE HAVE NO RUTHER INFORMATION ON TIMING OF GUATEMALAN APPROACH TO UK REGARDING RESUMPTION OF TALKS.

E. ADDITIONAL US AID. WE ARE PREPARING A MESSAGE LAYING OUT OUR VIEWS ON HOW US ASSISTANCE MIGHT FIT INTO THE LONGER-TERM RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT. IT WILL REACH THE DEPARTMENT ON OR BEFORE MARCH 10, THE DATE DISCUSSED WITH THE SECRETARY.
MELOY

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